

EXHIBITS

The exhibits in the Visitors Center depict the diverse history of Fernald from the time Native Americans inhabited the site, through the uranium-processing years, to the eventual environmental cleanup and the legacy management period that continues today.



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*revealing, engaging, and
preserving our history*

Fernald Preserve





The Fernald Preserve Visitors Center was a warehouse, constructed during the site's cleanup phase, that has been redesigned in cooperation with an interdisciplinary team of faculty and students from the University of Cincinnati's College of Design, Architecture, Art, and Planning (DAAP). During the pre-construction period, DAAP representatives met regularly with local citizens to obtain input on the design and contents of the Visitors Center. The newly opened Visitors Center is a major step toward realizing our neighboring communities' desire to turn the Fernald site into an asset for current and future generations.

Long before recorded history, this land was home to many different Native American cultures. The exhibits in the Visitors Center portray the diverse history of the Fernald site and tell the story of Fernald from the time Native Americans inhabited the site, to the arrival of

settlers and farmers, to the uranium-processing years, to the eventual environmental cleanup and legacy management period that continues today. Consistent with its new role as a nature preserve, the Visitors Center also houses information on the Fernald Preserve's natural attractions.

The Visitors Center was planned and constructed in a manner that has allowed the building to achieve certification from the U.S. Green Building Council. The Council sponsors the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) rating system, which is the nationally accepted benchmark for the design, construction, and operation of high-performance green buildings. Achieving LEED certification provides independent verification that a building project is environmentally responsible and a healthy place to work and visit.

The exhibits constitute nearly half of the building's total square footage and incorporate salvaged, refurbished, and reused materials. Fifty percent of the exhibit panels use a wheatboard substrate, while other panels are composed of certified eco-friendly resin. In addition, bio-solvent printing ink is used in the exhibits to minimize the impact on indoor air quality. We hope you enjoy your time in this ecologically responsible green building.